

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 16, 17, 19, 21, 22, 25, 31-35, 37, 38, 40, 41, 43, 44, 47-52, 54, 55, 57-59, 65, 67, and 68 have been amended. Claims 12-15, 28, 29, 36, 39, 42, 46, 62, 66, 70, 74, and 75 have been cancelled. New claims 76-84 have been added. Therefore, claims 1-11, 16-27, 30-35, 37, 38, 40, 41, 43-45, 47-61, 63-65, 67-69, 71-73, and 76-84 are presently in the Application. No further additional claims fees are due, since the number of total claims and the number of independent claims are each less than the numbers originally paid for.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation that was recited in claims 14 and 15, and dependent claims 12-15 have been cancelled. Dependent claims 28, 29, 36 and 39 have also been cancelled. Independent claim 41 has been amended to include the limitation that was recited in claim 46, and dependent claim 46 has been cancelled.

Independent claim 59 has been amended to include a limitation similar to the limitation that was recited in claim 62, and dependent claim 62 has been cancelled. Independent claim 65 has been amended to include the limitation of claim 70, and dependent claim 70 has been cancelled.

Independent claims 74 and 75 have been cancelled. The dependencies of the following dependent claims have been amended: 4, 16, 17, 19, 21, 22, 25, 31-35, 37, 38, 40, 41, 43, 44, 47-50, 52, 54, 55, 57, 58, 67, and 68.

Also, new claims 76-87 have been added.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the feature recited in claim 14 and claim 15, which were indicated by the Examiner as being allowable except as to form. [The limitation of intervening claim 2 has not been included, but this should not affect the allowability of amended claim 1, since the Examiner's statements in paragraphs 64 and 64 of the Office Action indicate, in effect, that a combination of features recited in claims 1 and 14 (or 15) are not taught or fairly suggested by the prior art. Claims 1-11, 16-27, 30-35, 37, 38 and 40 all depend ultimately from claim 1, and should therefore also be allowable.

Independent claim 41 has been amended to include the limitation of claims 42 and 46, namely, that the step of providing an aperture in conjunction with the lens array, for high spatial frequency cutoff in the image, comprises providing an aperture having a shape matched to the pixel pattern of the electro-optical pattern. Regarding the claim 46 (now cancelled, but whose limitation is now in amended independent claim 41), the Examiner had added the teachings of Kimura et al. U.S. Patent 5,833,341 to those of Park U.S. Patent 5,140,428 and Clark U.S. Patent 4,720,637, and stated:

"Kimura discloses that the shape of the aperture is the same as the imaging device (column 14, lines 32-34; and based on design choice, it is implied that the aperture may be formed in any shape such as rectangular, square,

hexagonal, or diamond in order to match the imaging device). Kimura teaches that the use of an aperture shaped in the same as the pixel pattern of an imaging device is preferred in order to direct the light on the portion that accepts the light only (column 14, lines 43-45). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the primary device to include the use of an aperture shaped in any pattern in order to match the imaging device."

A study of Kimura '341 shows that the quoted passage is without basis, and that Kimura does not anticipate or suggest the invention as defined by claim 41, as amended, and does not provide the teachings that the Examiner acknowledges are missing from the Park '428 and Clark '637 citations.

The invention disclosed in Kimura et al. relates to an illuminating optical system and projector in which light from a light source is stated to be more effectively used and the portion thereof that illuminates outside the target area is reduced. The aperture of Kimura referred to by the Examiner (at col. 14, lines 32-34 and col. 14, lines 43-45) is the aperture 304 of the mirror 303 shown in Figure 13 of Kimura. As described at column 14, the light incident on mirror 303 and aperture 304 is light from a lamp 301 that is converted by a concave lens 305 into a parallel light beam, which is then passed through the square aperture 304 to a square liquid crystal image forming device. There is no indication whatsoever that the aperture 304 of Kimura is for high spatial frequency cutoff of an image, or for filtering of any kind. Indeed, no image is even present in the light that passes through the aperture 304. Also, the Examiner states that the aperture of Kimura is shaped the same as the pixel pattern of the imaging device. In addition to there being no statement or showing of this in Kimura, even the attribution of such a

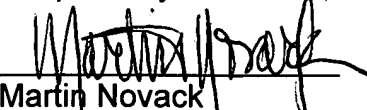
teaching to Kimura would fail since, as stated, the light that passes through the Kimura aperture does not even contain an image. These several deficiencies of the citation should completely obviate the rejection, but even a further reason is also present. Specifically, since Kimura does not disclose a spatial frequency cutoff filter, and is only used to shape a parallel beam, why would a person skilled in the art combine the teachings of Kimura into the system of Park '528 and Clark '637? Other than a proscribed hindsight attempt at reconstruction of the claimed invention, there would be no rationale or incentive for such combination. Thus, it is clear that independent claim 41, as amended, patentably distinguishes over the cited prior art and should be deemed allowable.

The same or similar arguments can be applied to amended independent claims 59 and 65, as well as to new independent claim 76, all of which contain limitations that are the same as or similar to those discussed with reference to independent claim 41, as amended.

In view of the foregoing it is believed that all claims of this application are now in condition for allowance, and such favorable action is respectfully solicited. In the event there are any remaining issues, however, it is asked that the Examiner kindly telephone the undersigned counsel collect so that they can be resolved.

Delray Beach, Florida
Phone: (561)498-4706
Fax : (561)498-4027
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Respectfully submitted,


Martin Novack
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 25,164

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